(छ) क्या सरकार निकट भविष्य में आयात का उपयोग निर्यात बढ़ाने तक ही सीमित रखने पर विचार करेगी; और

(ज) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रवण मुखर्जी) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) निर्यात एवं आयात भिन्न-भिन्न कारकों द्वारा निर्धारित होता है और बिल्कुल सही संतुलन केवल संयोग की बात हो सकती है।

(ग) और (घ) हांलाकि आमतौर पर हमारा वार्षिक आयात निर्यात से अधिक रहता है, 1972-73 तथा 1976-77 के वर्षों में निर्यात आयात से अधिक था।

(ङ) से (ज) हमारा अधिकांश आयात न केवल निर्यात उत्पादन के लिए आवश्यक निविष्टियों के रूप में होता है बल्कि घरेलू खपत की वस्तुओं के उत्पादन के लिए भी निविष्टियों के रूप में होता है। कुछ आयात घरेलू आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति के लिए भी किया जाता है और इसलिए सरकार की नीति यह नहीं है कि आयात की अनुमति केवल निर्यात उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिए ही सीमित रखी जाए।

Projections for Exports

1930. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the projections for exports during the begining of next year ;

(b) what additional steps will be taken to boost our exports ;

(c) whether the positive trend will continue for a few year ; and

(d) what are the likely obstacles which Government envisages in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Export targets for the next year (1994-95) have not been fixed.

(b) and (c) Export Promotion is a continuous process, necessary steps are taken to meet the emerging situation and to boost exports on long-term basis.

(d) The world economic recession and slow growth in World trade are likely constraints in increasing our exports.

1931. [*Transferred to 15th March* 1994.]

Export of Fruit and Vegetables

1932. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India ranks third in the fruit and vegetables production in the world but does not appear anywhere in the list of major food products exporting countries ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) what is the quantity and value of fruit and vegetables exported from India during each of the last three years ; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to encourage the export of food products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) India ranks 2nd in the world in the production of fruits and vegetables. However, India is not a major food products exporting country.

(b) The main reasons are as under :—

(i) Low productivity of fruits and vegetables.

(ii) Lack of information of pre-harvest and post-harvest practices to be followed for export production.

(ii) Non-availability of rapid transporatation system ;

(iv) inadequate food processing facilities.

(v) Lack of infrastructural facilities like warehousing, cold storage.

(c) The quantity and value of exports of fruits and vegetables from India during the last three years are given below :—

Quantity : MTS. Value : Rs. Lakhs

	Products	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1.	Onions***	240,222	9,088	3,70,950	14,959	39,000	17,300
2.	Fresh Veg.	27,426	1,750	41,757	2,572	37,880	2,807
3.	Dried Nuts (Walnuts)	4,268	1,945	4,929	3,613	4,832	4,404
4.	Fresh Mangoes	19,380	3,122	23,104	3,546	25,850	4,599
5.	Fresh Grapes	5,348	855	11,147	1,862	10,801	2,179
6	Other Fresh Fruits	22,121	1,261	41,313	2,846	43,633	3,419

Source : APEDA ***NAFED.

(d) Government plans to promote export of agricultural commodities like superfine varities of rice, durum wheat, fresh fruits and vegetables, processed foods, cashew kernels, spices, oilcakes, meat and meat products, etc. in a big way. While maximising foreign exchange from these exports, the strategy of the Government is to allow the export of items of mass consumption in such a manner that it does not compromise our food security. The introduction of a unified exchange rate, liberlisation of the EXIM Policy, extension of the benefits available to units under the scheme of Export Oriented Units both in the export processing zones and the domestic tariff areas, allowing the exporters of agricultural commodities to export 50% of their produce, the Commodity Boards etc. participation in the exhibition/trade fairs abroad, sponsor trade delegations and arrange buyers-sellers meets, inter-action with the importers, are all steps aimed at promotions exports of food products.

Import and Export of Foodgrains and other Agriculture Produce

1933. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains and other agricultural produce are imported in the country and exported ;

(b) if so, how much foodgrains and other agricultural produce were imported and exported in the year 1992-93, commodity-wise and country-wise ;

(c) whether this import and exports were less or more in quantity according to our requirements ; and

(d) if less, the reasons therefor and if more, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.